

behind the eye is a triangular patch of black, its apex following the edge of the bare orbital surface in a thin line to about half way up the eye. The base of the triangle extends backward along the bottom of the ear coverts, fading away at their extremity; and forward, to the angle of the mouth, following the base of the lower mandible in a very fine line until it vanishes in the interramal space beneath.

The albinistic tendency is not as regular in its distribution as the melanic, and in this respect agrees with the majority of the others that have been taken. On the upper part of the abdominal region, just at the lower edge of the sternum, are two white contour feathers, now springing from opposite sides of the incision made in skinning, but plainly arising from adjoining parts and must have formed a single patch in life. The body down on either side of the taxidermist's cut, and extending for a short distance on either side and from the sternum to the vent is also white.

Each leg is decorated with albino characters. On the left leg there is a patch composed of three feathers showing $\frac{5}{8}$ inch long and extending from the front slightly over half way around the leg and with the lowest point just touching the bare part of the tibia. On the right leg there are but two white feathers placed a little more towards the outer side and extending over a visible space of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch by a little less than half way around and not reaching the bare parts by $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

All the white is pure and immaculate and not of the creamy coloration seen in corresponding parts of *A. exilis*.—P. A. TAVERNER, *Detroit, Mich.*

Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) in New Jersey.—A record of the specimen herewith reported has never been made in any ornithological journal, though the label which it carries is now nearly 25 years old. It was shot at Barnegat, on the ocean beach, and the label, written and enclosed in the glass which protects the bird, bears the legend: "Shot by John Fonda at Barnegat, Decoration Day, 1880." Stone's 'Birds of E. Penn. and New Jersey,' 1894, p. 70, mentions but two records, one in 1877 and one in 1886. This specimen is in Mr. Fonda's possession, nearly as fresh as when mounted, at his home, 250 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.—WILLIAM C. BRAISLIN, M. D., *Brooklyn, N. Y.*

The Turkey Buzzard (*Carthartes aura*) in Maine.—While driving at Scarborough Beach, Me., on August 5, 1904, my attention was directed to a large bird flying over the woods several hundred yards back from the road. I at first took it to be an eagle but at second glance the characteristic sailing of the bird, with tips of wings raised, left no doubt as to its identity. The Buzzard crossed the road behind us, circling over the salt marshes of the Libby River, and finally recrossed the road directly over our carriage and sufficiently near for us to distinctly see the crimson head and neck.

In replying to a letter sent to Mr. Ora W. Knight for other Maine

records, he has very kindly given me the following information under date of August 9, 1904.

"Replying to your inquiry relative to the Turkey Buzzard in Maine, I will say that I have the following unquestionable records: One taken at Standish, Cumberland County, in summer of 1874 (*cf.* Smith, *Forest & Stream*, Vol. XX, p. 26); one taken in Denmark, Oxford County, March, 1882, by Abel Sanborn and now in his possession. (This specimen was recorded by R. A. Gushee in *Forest & Stream*, for 1883, p. 245, and the *same* specimen was erroneously recorded as Black Vulture by Smith, *Forest & Stream*, Vol. XX, p. 285; it has, however, been seen within a year by a number of persons who can vouch that it is a Turkey Vulture, not a Black Vulture). Mr. Boardman had one specimen taken near his home in Calais; one was killed in Buxton in December, 1876 (*cf.* Brown, *Catalogue Birds of Portland*, p. 23).

"All the above records have been carefully verified by inquiry and examination of specimens by undoubted authorities. A few other records have been found to really refer to the Black Vulture or were not susceptible of verification."

Mr. Manly Hardy of Brewer, Me., under date of September 8, 1904, wrote me as follows:—

"Seeing a Turkey Buzzard is a very unusual thing in this State. Some years ago I saw one at Whitney's Hill, near Bangor. It was in a small ash tree in a large open field. It was late in November, after all the Hawks were gone. It was a warm sunny day and he sat with his wings stretched above his head just like the one on the 'Buzzard dollar.' I have seen hundreds of Buzzards but I have never seen any other bird sit in this way. I know of two cases of their having been caught in bear-traps. The hunters did not know what they were but told me of their bare red heads and white bills, so there could be no question of identity."

Mr. G. A. Boardman in his 'Catalogue of the Birds found in the vicinity of Calais, Maine,' etc., published in 1862, records one specimen as referred to by Mr. Knight, but in a copy of this list which he sent me in 1872, with additions and corrections up to date, under Turkey Buzzard he has interlined, "2 since." This last record therefore makes the tenth for the State.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

A Correction.—In my list of the birds of Margarita Island, Venezuela (*Auk*, XIX, p. 261), I included *Buteo albicaudatus* Vieill., saying that I obtained one specimen, an immature female. *Buteo albicaudatus* was fairly common near the coast, and the bird I found nailed to a tree near El Valle was of this species; but the specimen brought back proves to be a young female of *Parabuteo unicinctus* (Temm.), the southern form of Harris's Hawk.—AUSTIN H. CLARK, *Boston, Mass.*

The Gray Sea Eagle (*Halieetus albicilla*) in British Columbia.—In a small collection of bird-skins bought in the fall of 1903 by Dr. Dwight and